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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

December 22, 1970

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your note of December 4.  
I shall keep your suggestions in mind as  
the programs which you mentioned are  
reviewed.

Warm regards,

  
Henry A. Kissinger

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE  
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

The Honorable R. W. Komer



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4 December 1970

The Honorable Henry A. Kissinger  
Assistant to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20506

Dear Henry:

Yes, it is at least partly a matter of resources, as I keep telling Colby. One can't make bricks without straw, and it's an evasion for the bureaucrats to keep telling you that resources are no constraint. See the copy of my reply to Colby, which I sent you, for a half dozen ways to spend dollars and piasters wisely. True, jacking up Phung Hoang wouldn't cost very much, but it would be a vitally important symbol that we mean business. The same holds true on the economic front, where the PAAS surveys show the villages far more concerned these days about economic issues than security.

Of course, you put your finger on the key problem when you remarked how difficult it is to get bureaucracies to shift resources (or take action). What's needed is less further studies and analyses than some ramrod to beat the GVN and MACV over the head.

Sincerely,



R. W. Komer

RWK/hs